

SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

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“People who think they know everything are very irritating to those of us who do”

- Unknown

The Real “ER”

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCS) recently issued a report documenting injury-related visits to hospital emergency departments over the period 1992 to 1995. Some of the findings in the report include:

- There is an average of 36.8 million injury related visits per year to emergency rooms in the U. S. (That's over 100,00 visits every day!)
- Falls were the leading external cause of injury, accounting for 24 percent of the injury-related emergency department visits. Falls were more common among children under 5 years of age and the elderly.
- Motor vehicle traffic incidents caused injuries in 12 percent of the visits for which an external cause was provided. Visit rates related to motor vehicle traffic injuries were higher for persons 15-24 than for other ages. Stress this last fact if you have teen-age drivers in your family.

Are you doing all you can do to reduce your chances of becoming an “ER” statistic?

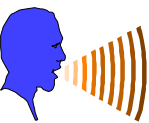


Can you see the Fog!

Even though fog can occur year round in Florida, it is primarily a winter phenomenon. Since our winter is not over yet, we can expect more foggy mornings in the coming months. The fog we experienced Thursday, January 21, was extremely dense in some areas of KSC. Fog is produced during nights with clear skies, calm surface winds, and moisture near the surface. It usually develops after midnight and will persist until sunrise when the sun starts to heat the earth. To maintain a safe attitude during foggy mornings, it is important to :

- slow down when driving in fog**
- use low beam lights only**
- leave earlier in the morning when you know fog is probable**

Information supplied by Peggy Glitto, Melbourne National Weather Service. Call her at 255-0212 from 0800-1600 if you have additional weather questions.



Recall...Recall...Recall

unreasonable risks of injuries or deaths associated with consumer products. They have jurisdiction over about 15,000 types of consumer products, from coffee makers to toys to lawn mowers.

CPSC works to reduce the risk of injuries and deaths from consumer products by developing voluntary standards with industry; issuing and enforcing mandatory standards; obtaining the recall of products or arranging for their repair; conducting research; informing and educating consumers through media, state and local government, and responding to consumer inquiries. Portions of the CPSC January 1999 press release included information on the recall of:

- **Children's Fleece Robes** (Limited Too Inc.) which failed to meet flammability standards for children's-sized sleepwear.
- **Emerson Ceiling Fan Installation Kits** (Air Comfort Products) Over time, the bracket holding the ceiling fan can fail, causing the fan to fall or hang by its electric wires.

For additional information, visit their web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov/>



Do you have questions, comment, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite or Alan at 867-3311, fax number 867-3583, mail code EI-HF or e-mail them at “Safety on the Line” found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web. Go to the KSC home page, then click on KSC internal page, then find us under NASA/KSC news.